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All-gender, single stalls for Loudoun Co. school bathrooms could cost hundreds of millions

by Nick Minock

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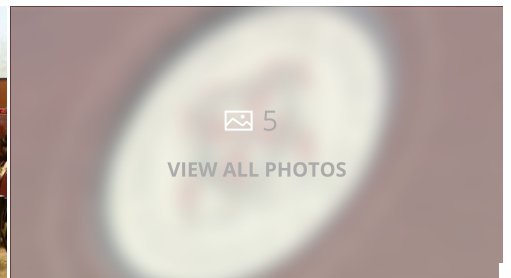


Photo illustration (Nick Minock/7News)

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LOUDOUN COUNTY, Va. (7News) — At Tuesday's Loudoun County School Board meeting, parents were vocal in their opposition to Loudoun County school cuts that include online learning and some special education positions. And parents expressed their outrage at the school board for spending \$11 million on new bathrooms.

"It is devastating to me that the majority of the school board is focused on flushing millions of dollars down the toilet in unneeded bathrooms in the name of affirmation and inclusion," one parent told school board members Tuesday.

"For all the students that don't feel comfortable with sharing the restroom with the opposite sex, I see you. You are loved," another Loudoun County resident told the school board.



The Loudoun County School Board spends \$11 million on a new bathroom design while special education teachers plea for more hires. (7News)

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As part of a pilot program, the Loudoun County School Board is reconstructing a handful of bathrooms at five schools which costs Loudoun County Public Schools \$11 million, according to LCPS' plan.

If the school board decided to reconstruct bathrooms at every Loudoun County school at the same price, it could cost the county more than \$211.2 million.

READ THIS | [Loudoun County School Board spends \\$11M on new bathroom design, cuts special ed funds](#)

One of the bathroom design options that the Loudoun County School Board is considering is gender-neutral bathrooms with floor-to-ceiling bathroom stalls.

"I would say it's financially irresponsible. I would say it's financially negligent," Loudoun County father Brandon Michon told 7News. "I would say it is ludicrous. Our board of supervisors should be vocal and say this is a waste of money as well and they should vocally come out and say 'We will reject your budget if this even goes through'. This school board in my mind has been agents of chaos, pushing political agendas, and they make it seem like every student in this county just doesn't know that they don't identify as something yet. Yet, the statistics prove that's not the case."

The majority of the school board is looking at new bathroom designs to accommodate transgender and nonbinary students.

[Here is the link to Loudoun County Public School's Policy 8040 on the rights on transgender and gender-expansive students.](#)

On Tuesday night, school board member Harris Mahedavi pushed back against the backlash from parents who are upset about cuts to special education while the school board spends money on new bathrooms.

"We've gotten beat up tonight. And for the last month we've been beaten up because somehow we cannot communicate all the good things we are doing," said Mahedavi. "Tonight was really sad for me getting beat up for things we are doing above and beyond. We are trying to do our best."

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